

# **Exhibit 2**

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA

CRIMINAL DIVISION

CC No. 10522-2014

vs.

PROCEEDING:  
Sentencing

DUANE YOUNGBLOOD,

DATE:  
March 10, 2015

Defendant.

REPORTED BY:  
Veronica R. Trettel, RMR, CRR  
Official Court Reporter

BEFORE:  
Hon. Jill Rangos

COUNSEL OF RECORD:  
For the Commonwealth:  
Evan Lowry, Esq.

For the Defendant:  
Milton Raiford, Esq.

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

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Tuesday Morning, March 10, 2015

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(In Open Court)

- - -

THE COURT: Commonwealth versus Duane Youngblood. Counsel, please enter your appearance.

MR. LOWRY: May it please the Court, Evan Lowry on behalf of the Commonwealth, Your Honor.

MR. RAIFORD: Milton Raiford for Mr. Youngblood.

THE COURT: We do have a Pre-Sentence Report in this case. Each of you have had the opportunity to review that report; is that correct?

MR. RAIFORD: Yes, ma'am.

MR. LOWRY: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Are there any additions or corrections?

MR. RAIFORD: I believe there's a couple, just dates in terms of the time that Mr. Youngblood began his counseling, was getting his counseling. It was 2011. And I think they put another date in there in that regard.

At the time he was seeing the victim in the

1 case, it was 2011 and not 2010.

2 THE COURT: I've been handed some letters on  
3 behalf of Mr. Youngblood. I'll take a moment and read  
4 those.

5 Mr. Lowry, did you receive copies of those?

6 MR. LOWRY: I have not, Your Honor.

7 (Pause noted)

8 THE COURT: I have read all three letters  
9 provided to me by the defense.

10 Mr. Lowry, have you had an opportunity to  
11 read those.

12 MR. LOWRY: I have, Your Honor. Thank you.

13 THE COURT: I'll incorporate them into the  
14 record here today. You have no other witnesses. Is  
15 that accurate, Mr. Raiford?

16 MR. RAIFORD: That's correct.

17 THE COURT: So we'll ask Mr. Lowry to  
18 present his witnesses. Then I'll give each of you the  
19 opportunity for allocution.

20 I would ask Mr. Youngblood to step over to  
21 the other side of Mr. Raiford, please.

22 MR. LOWRY: Commonwealth would call [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED] III.

24 Mr. [REDACTED] please state your name and  
25 spell your last name for the record.

MR. [REDACTED] My name is [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

MR. LOWRY: And [REDACTED] how do you know

MR. [REDACTED] He's my brother.

MR. LOWRY: Is he your older or younger brother?

MR. [REDACTED] Older brother.

MR. LOWRY: Did you prepare a statement to read for the Judge today?

MR. [REDACTED] Yes.

MR. LOWRY: Can you read that statement for Judge Rangos?

MR. [REDACTED] Yes. What happened to my brother has affected myself because I never thought such a horrible thing could happen to my brother.

When I first found out, I didn't express any emotions because I didn't understand why would anyone do this to my brother. Especially my former pastor.

My family has been attending his church for several years. We trusted him to preach the Word of God. I felt anger, frustration, anxiety. Why is the question I wanted to ask. I looked up to my older brother. Through this process, he has portrayed strength and perseverance, and he has the most

1           despairing and painful memories. Watching him made me  
2           look up to him even more.

3                   MR. LOWRY: That would be all from [REDACTED]  
4           Your Honor.

5                   THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. [REDACTED]

6           Any questions?

7                   MR. RAIFORD: No, ma'am.

8                   MR. LOWRY: Commonwealth would call [REDACTED]  
9           [REDACTED]

10                   Can you please state your name for the  
11           record.

12                   MS. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

13                   MR. LOWRY: And how do you know [REDACTED]

14                   MS. [REDACTED] He's my older brother.

15                   MR. LOWRY: And [REDACTED] did you prepare a  
16           statement to read to the Judge today?

17                   MS. [REDACTED] Yes.

18                   MR. LOWRY: Can you please read that  
19           statement?

20                   MS. [REDACTED] My family's claim to love was  
21           destroyed behind closed doors. As most people know,  
22           me and my brother are very close, and me and him both  
23           attend four-year colleges his senior my freshman year.  
24           Those years are stressful enough for any college  
25           student without anything being added to it. I feel

1 that it made our family, me personally, anger,  
2 frustration, and it has torn our family apart.

3 For the years past, it is coming out now  
4 Duane Youngblood operating and being ashamed. They  
5 will have to carry this with them for the rest of  
6 their lives. They are supposed to help build up, but  
7 took advantage. It bothers me to a point where not  
8 only he did it, but he was a preacher who got up in  
9 front of a congregation speaking and taught the word  
10 of God which was off. I looked at him as a father  
11 figure. I enjoyed and loved at the time serving this  
12 man and his family, helping out with the reception  
13 before and after church.

14 Watching his interaction with his daughters  
15 he has brought tears to my eyes because it was  
16 beautiful. I loved talking to him, period, giving him  
17 strong hugs and the words "I love you" came out of his  
18 mouth. I respected Duane, admired and looked up to  
19 him, even though he has misled and betrayed my brother  
20 and my family. I have a bleeding heart for people.  
21 No, I do not like the situation, but, yes, I do love  
22 him and forgive him for his wrongdoing to my family  
23 and especially my brother just as Christ would.

24 And as my mom, said, yes, we are to learn  
25 from bad experiences. Never forget the past, but to

1 keep moving forward and, yes, that is exactly what we  
2 plan to do. Move forward.

3 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. [REDACTED]

4 MS. [REDACTED] You're welcome.

5 MR. LOWRY: Commonwealth would call

6 [REDACTED] Jr.

7 Mr. [REDACTED] can you please state your name  
8 for the Court.

9 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Jr.

10 MR. LOWRY: And how are you related to

11 [REDACTED] sir?

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] He's my son.

13 MR. LOWRY: Did you prepare a statement to  
14 read to Judge Rangos?

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Yes.

16 MR. LOWRY: And would you do so at this  
17 time, sir?

18 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] As I stand here before  
19 the Court as [REDACTED] father, I feel a certain level  
20 of responsibility for what happened to my son. I  
21 asked for him to be counselled, and I am at fault for  
22 not monitoring the counseling more closely. I feel  
23 like I let my child down because your children expect  
24 you to make wise decisions concerning their care and  
25 not to hand them over to be assaulted. I won't stand



1 here and take all of the blame though. You expect  
2 that when you take your child to the pastor and he  
3 agrees to counsel, counsel your child, that there's  
4 not an ulterior motive there.

5 I know some would say that you should try  
6 and understand that is some sort of disease, but  
7 that's BS and that's not true. It's not a disease.  
8 It's surely a sickness of integrity. It's a choice.  
9 A choice was made to assault my son, and other young  
10 men. It was a choice to blatantly lie to my face  
11 repeatedly and he was very smart and calculating and  
12 very deceptive in everything he did.

13 My son should be able to trust his father  
14 without question and I love the church. I just hope  
15 that this Court does everything legally possible that  
16 this doesn't happen to anyone else's child.

17 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. [REDACTED]

18 MR. LOWRY: Commonwealth calls [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

19 Ms. [REDACTED] can you please state your name.

20 MS. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

21 MR. LOWRY: And how are you related to

22 [REDACTED] ma'am?

23 MS. [REDACTED] His mother.

24 MR. LOWRY: Did you prepare a statement to  
25 read to Judge Rangos at this time?

1 MS. [REDACTED] Yes, I did.

2 MR. LOWRY: Would you please do so?

3 MS. [REDACTED] Your Honor, I left to  
4 defendant's Youngblood church in November of 2012  
5 because he had wanted to counsel my daughter. At the  
6 time I didn't know what had happened to my son  
7 [REDACTED] but the defendant did and tried all he could  
8 to persuade me to come back to the church, and when  
9 that didn't work, he and the members of his church  
10 began to slander my name.

11 While having a conversation with my son last  
12 July of 2014, he told me that between 2009 and 2011,  
13 he had been sexually assaulted by the defendant. Your  
14 Honor, it felt like someone had ripped my heart out of  
15 my chest, and all I could do was cry out, "Lord help  
16 me."

17 I asked my son why didn't you tell me, and  
18 he said the defendant kept telling him, "Don't tell  
19 your mom."

20 Your Honor, me and my entire family had  
21 served this church. I was there for 12 years with my  
22 kids, and my husband for 13-and-a-half years.  
23 Finally, this was out like a slap in the face, and the  
24 ultimate sense of betrayal. My husband had stayed and  
25 served in this church after I left. This man was

1 honor bearer and deacon of the church. Him and my son  
2 both called him dad and highly respected him. The  
3 information of finding out my son was sexually  
4 assaulted by our bishop, the defendant, has been  
5 emotionally, mentally, and physically stressful these  
6 past couple of months, but my son [REDACTED] has had to  
7 deal with the guilt, shame, and fear since this has  
8 come out -- well, since this happened starting in  
9 2009.

10 This has turned a husband against me, his  
11 wife and family because the defendant so seized the  
12 division and confusion between -- fusion because he  
13 was mad that I would not submit to my husband and  
14 return to the church so he could keep his secret  
15 hidden and cover up his lies about sexually assaulting  
16 our son.

17 The defendant claims that he wants to help  
18 young men who are hurting, but while all this time  
19 he's the one who has been hurting them by sexually  
20 assaulting them.

21 He took an oath before God to pray for, help  
22 and to help the less fortunate and needy. The  
23 defendant is a wolf in sheep's clothing and preyed,  
24 P-R-E-Y-E-D, on my son and other people in his church.  
25 He said he has a sickness and a disease and he does.

1 He is a serial molester and has not tried to stop.  
2 That's why I petition this Court today to give him the  
3 maximum punishment allowable for this offense.

4 THE COURT: Thank you, Mrs. [REDACTED]

5 MR. LOWRY: The Commonwealth would call

6 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Can you please state your name spell  
7 your first name.

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] My name is [REDACTED]

9 [REDACTED] My first name is spelled [REDACTED]

10 MR. LOWRY: And [REDACTED] did you prepare a  
11 statement as to how this crime and case has affected  
12 your life?

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] I did.

14 MR. LOWRY: Can you please read it to Judge  
15 Rangos?

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Your Honor, good morning.  
17 So I've known Duane since I was around probably eight  
18 to ten. I've looked at him as a father figure and  
19 I've told this man that I looked at him as a father  
20 figure in our conversations.

21 I went to him for counseling for dealing  
22 with attraction to men, and also dealing with just  
23 different things just talking to him in general, just  
24 having nice conversations and just enjoying each  
25 other's company, Your Honor.

1 I didn't understand at the time when I -- we  
2 used to have conversations and I used to mention  
3 counseling, and he used to say this isn't counseling.  
4 I didn't necessarily understand what he meant at the  
5 time of him saying that.

6 I remember us having conversations on the  
7 phone, possibly me telling him I wanted this to stop.  
8 That I looked at him as a father figure. My dad  
9 looked at him as a father figure, and he did apologize  
10 at the time, Your Honor. But I believe that I  
11 remember that it happening after that.

12 He used to tell me that -- we used to talk  
13 about different tests that would come with different  
14 men trying to talk to me, and I remember while sitting  
15 in his office was the test that we're going to come or  
16 was this the test?

17 I also remember like very often how once  
18 everything had started, the different things between  
19 me and him, how did I get here? And how I get out of  
20 this situation, but I always to certain extent wanted  
21 to please him. I remember not wanting to tell my  
22 parents for the fact of feeling ashamed of what had  
23 happened.

24 Also, for -- I also didn't want to cause  
25 grief and pain because this similar incident had

1 happened to me when I was a younger child and I had --  
2 Duane knew about that, and I didn't really want to  
3 inflict all of that pain that had come from when I was  
4 younger on my parents again.

5 This year is my senior year in college. I'm  
6 about to graduate in May from Cleveland, a student of  
7 art. It's been my toughest year at school. I know  
8 that from when the start of this, which was, I believe  
9 it's nine months exactly today, this has been the  
10 hardest school year for me. I had went to quit from  
11 school. I always knew about people talking about  
12 depression, but I never really knew what that meant  
13 until I went through it for myself. Not wanting to  
14 leave the house. Not wanting to eat. There's periods  
15 where people would call me and be like where have you  
16 been? What are you doing? We haven't seen you in a  
17 while. I had to stop, just stopped talking to a lot  
18 of people because of where I was at mentally. And I  
19 lost a lot of friends, but it was -- I feel like it  
20 was for the bettering of myself.

21 Growing up, I've always had troubles and  
22 trust issues with men, and I looked to Duane, as I  
23 said, a father figure, and through this whole  
24 situation, I've lost a lot of trust in people, I mean  
25 not people, but men, and I've had to learn how to

1 trust different men that came into my life, and I'm  
2 always looking like what's their motive, why are they  
3 here, always questioning different scenario situations  
4 in my life, because I felt like men more so than  
5 women -- I'm not saying women are excluded, but men  
6 run more games than women do, and I've always clinged  
7 more to women than to men.

8 But I met some guy in my life that helped me  
9 get through different, the situation and that have  
10 helped me to see where I was at and not to lie to  
11 myself and tell myself that I'm somewhere that I'm not  
12 mentally. There were people I could always pray with  
13 or talk to or discuss different scenarios going on  
14 with school or how I was doing in school.

15 I learned -- from all of this, I learned how  
16 to really get on my face and pray for myself. I  
17 surround myself now with probably about four or so  
18 friends that hold me accountable for things I'm doing,  
19 things that I'm saying. I've been growing a lot  
20 spiritually, and I'm learning how to trust God. I've  
21 gotten to know him for myself. In spite of everything  
22 that has happened, I forgive Duane. I forgive him for  
23 everything that has happened. I don't have any hate  
24 towards this man.

25 But that's not to say that I don't forget,

1 and I really felt -- I really question myself for  
2 wanting to come forward with all of the information  
3 because I was scared. I was ashamed, as I mentioned  
4 before. But I felt like if I didn't say something,  
5 all of the guilt from past that I can speak -- the  
6 past -- people help would be on me and I couldn't walk  
7 knowing that this could possibly happen to someone  
8 else.

9 I'm that's all I want to say.

10 THE COURT: Mr. [REDACTED] I feel compelled to  
11 tell you that I think you are a remarkable young man  
12 and I'm very proud of you for your perseverance and  
13 I'm certain your family is proud of you as well. You  
14 appear to me to be a genuinely kind man, a thoughtful  
15 person, and particularly thoughtful in how you've  
16 approached today. Very few people would be capable  
17 standing up here and making the statement that you  
18 just made. Thank you.

19 MR. LOWRY: Thank you. Those would be all  
20 of the witnesses, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Youngblood, please step back  
22 to the microphone. Mr. Youngblood, now is the  
23 opportunity for you to make allocution to the Court.  
24 Do you have anything you would like to say?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. In 2008, I came into



1 this building behind a case that I pleaded guilty to  
2 sexual assault charge. I served a year's house  
3 arrest, and after a year's house arrest in July of  
4 2009, I began sex offenders treatment. The first year  
5 of sex offenders treatment, we went threw a book where  
6 we discussed, in essence, showing the person that  
7 typically people who are involved in sex offenses have  
8 had an issue of expressing their emotion and feelings,  
9 after that first year, of going through the book, I  
10 certainly could see the pattern that had been truly my  
11 own story.

12 So six months later, a new therapist came in  
13 and took over our group, and one day, December, second  
14 week of December of 2011, in our therapy class, we  
15 were asking them a lot of questions. One of the  
16 questions led him to share with us the four things  
17 that he said he is involved in every sex offense. He  
18 said it was anger, power, intimacy deeds and  
19 physiological sex. It was a statement that impacted  
20 my life and has served moving forward to change my  
21 life because I was a person who always said I didn't  
22 have anger. I didn't feel powerless. Though I've  
23 been holding on to a story, my own story for a lot of  
24 years.

25 From that point moving forward for the next

1 nine months, in individual therapy and group therapy  
2 all I personally dealt with was anger I had had  
3 towards my own father and other men in my life and why  
4 I felt powerless by having been assaulted sexually  
5 myself multiple times.

6 Moving forward from there, I realized that  
7 they were two separate things, what had happened to me  
8 and what I had done, and I was able to finally  
9 separate the two. It says in this particular case  
10 that things ended between [REDACTED] and I in 2011. That  
11 was a very accurate statement because it was  
12 Thanksgiving weekend was the last time I seen him, two  
13 weeks later that this statement happened. I spoke to  
14 [REDACTED] in January of 2012. That was when I offered  
15 my apology to him because I could see that there was a  
16 difference being in a victim per se and carrying out  
17 actions against other people because you're a victim  
18 and realizing that I had responsibility for my own  
19 actions regardless to what had taken place in my life.

20 I was also told at sex offenders treatment  
21 that if I had done anything to anyone that I felt and  
22 encountered that person, that it was appropriate thing  
23 to offer, an apology to the person, sincere,  
24 regardless for what you had done. And in addition to  
25 that, that it was not our responsibility or right to

1 publicly put people's names and things out there if  
2 that person may not have been ready to deal with the  
3 situation as well.

4 So I followed that and have followed that  
5 since January of 2012 with any circumstances,  
6 situation that I felt that I had harmed anyone in any  
7 way, shape, or form.

8 In this particular case, I am extremely,  
9 extremely sorry. Sitting here listening to this  
10 family today has even taken that to a whole nother  
11 place in my heart.

12 The last thing I ever wanted to do in my  
13 life was to hurt anybody. I have spent 24 years in  
14 active ministry, and I believe in those 24 years, it  
15 helped a lot of people, but I'm willing to admit this  
16 family I've definitely hurt.

17 I would say first to [REDACTED] that I am so  
18 sorry that I let you down. I wish I had been further  
19 along in my own treatment. You didn't deserve it.  
20 Ever.

21 And I'm going to say to your father, you  
22 served me faithfully every Sunday. I am so sorry for  
23 what I put you through. I didn't know how to speak to  
24 anyone in regards to stuff like this.

25 To [REDACTED] I hope sometime in the future you

1 would be able to forgive me for what I've done to your  
2 son. I've never wanted to or intended to ever mislead  
3 any person. When I realized that I was harboring  
4 anger and feeling powerless, unable to share my own  
5 emotions with people covering the story since I was  
6 12-years-old, I realized then in some ways I had  
7 become the man I hated.

8 I can say this today that I'm thankful for  
9 my therapy. I'm thankful for the spiritual advisors  
10 in my life, and I'm thankful for my family and  
11 friends. I've been able to be a different person.  
12 Treat people differently. You don't have to be the  
13 person that I've been.

14 Your Honor, I just ask for mercy of this  
15 Court. I believe in my heart of hearts that I can be  
16 of help to many people in this world. I've talked to  
17 a lot of people who, unfortunately, have had pain for  
18 situations in their lives and they've moved on and  
19 taken a lot positions of leadership and have  
20 unresolved things in their lives and maybe headed down  
21 this very same path without some intervention and  
22 help.

23 I would like the opportunity to be able to  
24 continue therapy with my spiritual advisors and to be  
25 able to be with my family as well. That's all.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Raiford.

2 MR. RAIFORD: Your Honor, it's kind of --  
3 it's been an awkward representation of Bishop  
4 Youngblood to me. When I -- everybody in the city  
5 knows that I'm an elder at Petra International  
6 Ministries, which is a very large church, and when  
7 Bishop Youngblood called me to represent him, I prayed  
8 about it, and if anybody ever called me from the court  
9 or otherwise on my phone, my phone machine says, you  
10 know, leave me a message, but pray more than you say.

11 And praying about this situation, I did take  
12 his case on, but not to the extent that I approached  
13 the case from a point of view of case law and elements  
14 of offenses to be proven and facts to be presented,  
15 but from the standpoint of counseling and truth,  
16 because a church leader should be a safe place. A  
17 church leader should be a place where people can come,  
18 confide, be healed, be introduced to God, not  
19 introduced to themselves, not introduced to the wicked  
20 part of yourself of which man without God has in  
21 abundance.

22 And so that's the part I've taken in Bishop  
23 Youngblood's life in terms of -- I even had my own  
24 daughter to say when are you taking this case on for  
25 us in Baltimore, and a lot of people in the church

1 have almost categorically said are you out of your  
2 mind, but that's kind of strange because it seems like  
3 if you are a christian, then our responsibility is to  
4 take on those and be touched by those that -- Jesus  
5 allowed himself to be touched by those that everybody  
6 thought was foul or leopard or had some kind of issue.

7 Well, Mr. Youngblood clearly has an issue,  
8 but I could not justify my oath that I took to God and  
9 get on the bandwagon of prosecution. But I do know  
10 this, I did tell him this, that I believe -- and this  
11 is how I even swear me being a lawyer with what God  
12 called me to do because being a lawyer is just a tool.  
13 But that's not who I am. What I am is a christian and  
14 disciple of Christ Jesus, having been through all  
15 kinds of things myself, and there's nothing probably  
16 anybody done in this courthouse that I didn't do  
17 worse.

18 So I know that I've been forgiven and  
19 redeemed and I believe that anybody can. So I believe  
20 that for me, the glory of our justice system is a  
21 redeemed life. A redeemed life. The foundation of  
22 which is repentance. The crown of which is  
23 forgiveness.

24 So going through the police reports was not  
25 the big part of it. That was pretty easy. But the

1           repentance part, feeling like being godly sorry about  
2           what you've done. Repentant, it's a word that means  
3           to be lifted back up again, to be put in a proper  
4           position, that ergo, that's how you get penthouse. In  
5           other words, when you repent, you are put back in good  
6           stead. Maybe not with man because man won't always  
7           forgive you, but at least -- but most importantly with  
8           God.

9                        So by the time we went through the police  
10           report and read that [REDACTED] told the police that  
11           everything he did was voluntarily done, I knew that  
12           that time, that this young man is, as the Court just  
13           indicated that he is, he's a very sensitive young  
14           person that didn't deserve to have happen to him what  
15           happened to him by what should have been a safe place.

16                      And so, we quickly got to the point where we  
17           have to be accountable. We have to plead. I am not  
18           going to put this young man through cross-examination.  
19           There's no doubt that, you know, as Bishop Youngblood  
20           said to his parents I've done something inappropriate  
21           of a sexual nature.

22                      Well, funny thing about it, you can't  
23           halfway say you are sorry and you can't halfway -- a  
24           lot of people do it though. A lot of people plead  
25           guilty. Then all of a sudden they don't want to go

1 through the penalty phase. And so if you are not  
2 willing to face it, then at the end of the day, you're  
3 not repentant. If you plead guilty, then all of a  
4 sudden you start wanting to fire your lawyer after you  
5 get the sentence, then really at the end of the day,  
6 you're not really repentant.

7 So that's what we talked about. And I  
8 sincerely in my heart believe -- I know that Bishop  
9 Youngblood -- you know, the church is not exempt from  
10 human frailty. I mean, all you have to do is look at  
11 what happens, and what is happening in the Catholic  
12 Church, and that happens in the Baptist Church,  
13 Presbyterian Church, any church. It's not news when  
14 men fall. It's news when men forgive. It's not news  
15 when people lie, steal, abuse one another. That's the  
16 devil to me. Those things happen inside of people  
17 that are not at that moment connected with All Mighty  
18 God and are not consistently praying and acknowledging  
19 what is off in them, and that's an ongoing process  
20 throughout life for every believer.

21 But I really do believe that Bishop  
22 Youngblood has gotten to true repentance, and I really  
23 do -- and that's all I'm -- that's all he's  
24 responsible for. He pled guilty. He's accountable.  
25 He cannot be accountable, in spite of his words this



1 morning to the [REDACTED] family. The children are very,  
2 very blessed, because also you heard their statements  
3 that they're forgiving. But the parents, you know,  
4 hey, listen, if you do that to somebody's kid, how  
5 would you feel if those were your children?

6 The young lady talked about how she saw you  
7 interacting with your daughters and how it impacted  
8 her. So I understand where the parents are right now,  
9 but I know that there's enough God in them because I  
10 can see the God in their children to know that  
11 eventually as time goes on, they'll do what the Bible  
12 commands us to do, to forgive, as difficult as it is  
13 at times to do.

14 But I am -- I do believe that Bishop  
15 Youngblood is repentant. I know he's going to have to  
16 go back in front of Judge Cashman for the violation on  
17 this particular matter.

18 THE COURT: In speaking of that, he was  
19 detained on July 12th of 2014. So he has credit time.  
20 It will not be applied to both cases. Does he want me  
21 to make his sentence in this case effective on July  
22 12th or would he like to save that credit time for  
23 Judge Cashman?

24 MR. RAIFORD: Judge, I would like to save  
25 that time for Judge Cashman.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Youngblood, have you had the  
2 opportunity to discuss that?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

4 THE COURT: You agree with Mr. Raiford that  
5 you would like to save that credit time?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, ma'am.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Lowry, anything you would  
8 like to add here today?

9 MR. LOWRY: Yes, Your Honor. Judge, a  
10 16-year-old boy went to counseling -- and I'm stealing  
11 in Mr. Raiford's words -- in a safe place, and in that  
12 safe place or at that safe place, it turned into a  
13 place of horror for that 16-year-old boy. A person  
14 who he called father and dad, turned into a  
15 perpetrator in this case.

16 Now, although it was consensual, this was a  
17 pastor either using his position or other means to  
18 take advantage of a teenage boy. I think in terms of  
19 the sex offender treatment that was brought up -- and  
20 Judge, reading his Pre-Sentence Report, a condition of  
21 that probation from the prior case was to no longer  
22 counsel any children. If he would have simply  
23 followed that condition, at least until he made it  
24 through his counseling, we would not be here today per  
25 that's what the defendant said. So it wasn't simply

1 him going through treatment, but it was also him  
2 violating that period of probation where he was not to  
3 counseling children.

4 Judge, he was on probation for another sex  
5 offense when this happened.

6 THE COURT: That would not be a mandatory  
7 though as a result.

8 MR. LOWRY: And I would ask you that you  
9 take all of that, as well as the victim impact  
10 statements, I thought they were all very well done,  
11 into consideration in crafting your sentence on this  
12 case.

13 MR. RAIFORD: Your Honor, if I might, not to  
14 go back and forth on argument or anything like that,  
15 but one of the things I was going to ask if the Court  
16 is inclined to fashion a sentence in the standard  
17 range, which is 9 to 16 months, you know, some things  
18 happen in your life that you -- Bishop Youngblood's  
19 daughter is having a baby -- had a baby the other day  
20 at the hospital right now with her mother. That's why  
21 they're not here. Bishop Youngblood mother-in-law  
22 died about ten months ago.

23 THE DEFENDANT: Ten days.

24 MR. RAIFORD: I'm sorry, ten days ago. And  
25 he's no longer going to go back to that church. He's

1 not, and he's going to make a transition because he  
2 knows that that's not a place for him to be.

3 My plea to the Court was -- I keep saying  
4 about the sex offender treatment. I would ask Court  
5 to fashion a sentence if it's has to be in standard  
6 range so that he might be able to go on house arrest,  
7 make the transition in the church that he's made, get  
8 out of there, so that he can -- and also, his family  
9 suffered greatly because he put them through that, and  
10 when you do what he did, he put them through that.

11 But that's my desire, if the Court could  
12 fashion a sentence that would allow him as a condition  
13 of house arrest and continue sex offender treatment  
14 because it's not as though he doesn't still need  
15 treatment, and he's got his breakthrough in the  
16 treatment, and when he got his breakthrough in the  
17 treatment back in 2011, that's when things ceased from  
18 happening with him and other individuals.

19 So that's something I just wanted to asked  
20 the Court to take into consideration of his sentence.

21 THE COURT: His prior Felony 2 conviction,  
22 based on my reading of the guidelines, he was  
23 sentenced to a way below mitigated range sentence and  
24 given the opportunity to serve it on house arrest and  
25 probation. Clearly that did not serve the interest of

1 protecting the community.

2 So I would like to believe today that at  
3 some point before he was detained treatment did make  
4 an impact on him, but I have no way of knowing that,  
5 and it is not my belief that I should roll the dice  
6 and allow him another opportunity without further  
7 testing, including polygraph, maintenance polygraph  
8 that we employ through the treatment to ensure that he  
9 has fully vested in treatment and will abide by  
10 conditions in the community, such as not having  
11 contact with minors and certainly not counseling  
12 minors.

13 So he got a break on his earlier sentence  
14 for a very below mitigated range sentence, and the  
15 outcome of that is that we're here again today and  
16 there are additional victims.

17 MR. RAIFORD: But the dates in terms of the  
18 date that this Complaint was filed, this Complaint was  
19 filed subsequent to a meeting that Bishop Youngblood  
20 had with Mr. [REDACTED] family indicating, out of his  
21 own mouth, based on the treatment he received, that he  
22 had done something inappropriate with their child. So  
23 the treatment was working well before this case, these  
24 charges in this particular case were filed.

25 THE COURT: Well, I would like to believe

1 that as well, but Mr. Raiford, didn't he accept  
2 responsibility in the first sexual assault as well?

3 MR. LOWRY: That's true. It's like -- it  
4 would be nice if -- it's like a sanctification in  
5 life. It would be nice if you -- at the time that you  
6 Judge Cashman sentenced him and he started sex  
7 offender treatment, if he didn't need the treatment,  
8 but he did need it, and then he starts getting better,  
9 but during course of the time of his treatment, he  
10 falls, and then he confesses, and now he's here today  
11 based on something that happened those years ago.

12 So I think the treatment was working. I  
13 just think that it doesn't happen right away, though,  
14 and it's a process of working, and I think this --  
15 unfortunately this, if it wasn't working --

16 THE COURT: Again, Mr. Raiford, I don't mean  
17 to cut you off. We have been at this sentencing now  
18 for an hour. I understand your point. I don't have a  
19 crystal ball. I don't know where he is in the process  
20 you are describing and I'm not willing to take a risk  
21 that he will create additional victims.

22 What I would like to do is sentence him to a  
23 period of incarceration in the standard range. I  
24 understand that he has accepted responsibility, that  
25 he is remorseful, but that is only one element. He

1 was in a position of trust. He was precluded by his  
2 probation from engaging in counseling with minors and  
3 he violated that. He was in treatment for his earlier  
4 sexual offense and was not honest or forthcoming in  
5 the treatment and created additional victims.

6 For all of those reasons, I am going to  
7 sentence him in the standard range to a period of 16  
8 to 48 months. We will allow him to continue to  
9 receive treatment while he is incarcerated and with  
10 appropriate testing, allow the Parole Board to  
11 determine when he has received sufficient benefit from  
12 that treatment to return to the community in a way  
13 that will allow other children to be safe, with a  
14 consecutive three-year period of probation. His  
15 sentence is effective today at counsel's request and  
16 at Mr. Youngblood's request. He will be subject to  
17 the charge specific special conditions and we did  
18 review those. He is also a lifetime Megan's Law  
19 registrant based on the sex offense language.

20 Mr. Youngblood, you have the right within 10  
21 days of today to file a motion to challenge the  
22 validity of your plea of guilty, a motion seeking to  
23 modify your sentence or a motion in arrest of  
24 judgment. You also have the right within 30 days to  
25 file a direct appeal to the Superior Court. You have

1 the right to have a lawyer representing you at all  
2 stages of the proceedings, and if you cannot afford  
3 one, I would appoint one for you at no cost.

4 Have you spoken with Mr. Raiford regarding  
5 your post-sentence and appellate rights?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Do you understand those rights?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 MR. LOWRY: Thank you, Your Honor.

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12 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded.)

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA)  
COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY )

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

*I, Veronica R. Trettel, a Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the evidence and proceedings are contained fully and accurately in the machine shorthand notes taken by me at the hearing of the within cause, and that the same were transcribed under my supervision and direction, and that this is a correct transcript of the same.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Veronica R. Trettel, RPR  
Official Court Reporter